28th March 1964]

(31) DEMAND NO. XLIV—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON FORESTS.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor, I move—

'That the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 2,81,700 under Demand No. XLIV—Capital Outlay on Forests.'

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

(32) DEMAND NO. XLV—COMMUTED VALUE OF PENSIONS.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor, I move—

'That the Government be granted a further sum not exceedign Rs. 2,57,400 under Demand No. XLV—Commuted Value of Pensions.'

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

(33) DEMAND NO. XLVI—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON SCHEMES OF GOVERNMENT TRADING.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor, I move—

'That the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 4,36,12,300 under Demand No. XLVI—Capital Outlay on Schemes of Government Trading.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

III ANNOUNCEMENTS—*cont.*

(3) THE MADRAS APPROPRIATION (NO. 3) BILL, 1964.

MR. SPEAKER: I have to announce to the House that the Governor has given his recommendation for the introduction in and consideration by the Madras Legislative Assembly of the Madras Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 1964.

IV. GOVERNMENT BILLS—*cont.*

(2) THE MADRAS APPROPRIATION (NO. 3) BILL, 1964.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: Sir, I beg leave to introduce the Madras Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 1964.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is—

'That leave be granted for the introduction of the Madras Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 1964.

The motion was put and carried and leave was granted.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER : The Bill is introduced.

VI. VOTING ON DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1964-65.

(1) DEMAND NO. XXIX—COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS, ETC.

(2) DEMAND NO. XXIX—PUBLIC WORKS—GRANTS-IN-AID.

MR. SPEAKER : The discussion on the Demands XXIII and XXIX and the cut motions under them will be resumed.

* SRI C. CHIRANJEEVULU NAIDU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say a few words on the Demands before the House, viz., Community Development Project, etc. Sir, the panchayat unions which have been constituted after the enactment of the Panchayats Act, are now entrusted with the execution of the work under the Community Development Projects. As compared to 1962-63, in 1963-64 the budget of the panchayat unions has been reduced to a considerable extent, especially with regard to items like water supply, roads communications and education. Only a sum of Rs. 6·44 crores has been set apart in the budget for that purpose.

Sir, generally expenditure on items like elementary education, communications and dispensaries which have been entrusted to the panchayat unions, is being met partly by the Government and partly from the local resources that are being collected by way of local cess surcharge and other taxes by the panchayat unions.

10-00 a.m. A notable feature to-day is a sum of Rs. 1,09,00,000 is being collectd by the panchayat unions as local cess and surcharge. This amount is going mostly to fill the gap of deficit budget for meeting the elementary education expenses. The expenses incurred under the head elementary education is partly met by the Government and the remaining deficit has to be covered by levying certain surcharges by the panchayat unions. On an average, to-day, 30 naye Paise is levied as local surcharge by the panchayat unions, that is mostly for meeting the expenses on elementary education. I have been repeately pointing out this here, Sir, that in the rural areas people are put to lot of difficulties. In rural areas, the levy of surcharge has not been clearly defined as to how much the panchayat union should levy. To a maximum extent, it varies from 5 nP. to 100 nP. The Government has given the discretion to the panchayat unions to levy the surcharge and the panchayat unions are levying more than 40 nP. to 50 nP. in certain blocks. In one block, they are levying 95 nP. It causes great hardship to agriculturists to pay heavy surcharge. There has been an order fixing the maximum levy of surcharge